

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:242
ANSWERED ON:20.10.2008
ACIDIC SOIL
Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details regarding estimated acidic soil in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to take steps to treat acidic soil to make them capable of growing crops; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a): As per the available estimates of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR- 2005), an area of about 160.33 lakh hectare is affected by Soil Acidity falling in 19 States in the country as per State wise details given below:

S.No. Name of the State Area (lakh ha.)

1.	Andhra Pradesh	9.05
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	19.55
3.	Assam	6.12
4.	Bihar	10.29
>5.	Goa	0.02
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1.57
7	Karnataka	0.58
8.	Kerala	1.38
9.	Madhya Pradesh	67.96
10.	Maharashtra	5.17
11.	Manipur	4.81
12.	Mizoram	10.50
13.	Meghalaya	10.30
14.	Nagaland	1.27
15.	Orissa	2.63
16.	Sikkim	0.76
17.	Tamil Nadu	0.78
18.	Tripura	2.03
19.	West Bengal	5.56

TOTAL 160.33

(b)&(c): Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing the following Centrally Sponsored Programmes in the country to make Acidic Soils suitable for growing the crops:

(i) Reclamation and Development of Alkali & Acid Soils (RADAS)- Under this programmes, acid soils which are having productive potential are managed in two ways i.e. by growing crops suitable to acidic soils and by ameliorating the soils through the application of soil amendment.

(ii) National Project on Management of Soil Health & Fertility- Under this scheme a subsidy of 25 % of cost of soil amendment upto maximum of Rs. 500 per ha is provided for application of lime/basic slag for development of land affected by Acidity. The programmes are implemented through the State Governments.